

Year 11 Subject Review Grades

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Please find attached a copy of your child's attitude to learning grades, current grades, predicted grades and target grades.

Attendance

Our attendance target is that every student achieves 97% attendance or above. Nationally, research shows that excellent attendance is key to your child's future success and instils good habits for future career pathways. Being in school is also beneficial to students' well-being and self-esteem and provides opportunities to develop friendships and social skills.

Attitude To Learning Grades (ATOL)

We have introduced a new Attitude to Learning matrix for this academic year. The new criteria aim to motivate all students; by further challenging all students and rewarding their efforts, while also highlighting those that require further support and guidance to achieve their full potential. We urge all parents to look carefully at the new matrix and consider the changes; although we are still operating on a 1-4 scale, the descriptors have changed significantly. We make no excuses for 'raising the bar' as far as aspiration, effort and consistent hard work are concerned.

The new descriptors are as follows:

4. Fully engaged learners striving for excellence every lesson
3. Fully engaged learners performing well
2. Passive learners that are coasting
1. Unsatisfactory attitude to learning

We are committed to encouraging students to become active, independent, self-motivated learners and take responsibility for their own learning. With that in mind, students who require prompting/pushing to complete work and don't necessarily stretch themselves of their own accord will be awarded a grade 2.

Students will be expected to achieve as many 4s and 3s as is possible in all subjects. The Headteacher commends consistently outstanding attitude to learning across a range of subjects. Students' attitude to learning is one of the most important indicators of good progress and outcomes. A positive and committed attitude to learning is crucial for success in terms of results and instilling a work ethic that will improve students' employability in the future. Evidence shows that high levels of attitude to learning can increase the final grade a child receives by up to 2 grades. Cases of poor or disappointing attitude to learning are fully investigated.

Positive and Negative Points

Alongside your child's AtoL grade, we are also sharing with you the number of positive and negative points they have accrued during lessons. Positive points include 'Bonus Credits' and 'Core Value Credits'. Bonus Credits are awarded in all lessons daily for positive contributions that deserve additional praise and are worth one achievement point. Core Value



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credits are awarded to students who display our school's core values during lessons and in other areas of the wider school life; these are awarded less often than Bonus Credits and carry the value of 5 achievement points.

Negative points indicate that your child has shown behaviour that has fallen below the expected standards in lessons or around the school. More serious behaviours carry a greater number of negative interaction points than low level disruption.

Year 7 Attainment on Entry Scaled Scores

These show student's attainment from their Key Stage 2 SATs which they completed in Year 6 of primary school. A scaled score of 100 is the national average. Scores range from 80 – 120.

Current Grades

If results are missing, this is due to your child being absent for the mock exam in September.

For subjects which are 100% exam based, the current grade is the mock grade that your child achieved in the September mock examinations. These are the following:

English Language, English Literature, maths, science, geography, history, MFL, computer science and psychology.

For subjects which are 100% coursework based, the current grade will be the standard at which your child is currently performing at in terms of the work they have produced. These are the following subjects:

GCSE Art and Design, BTEC Art and Design Practice (Graphic Design), RSL Music and Performing Arts.

For subjects that are part exam based with students having sat a mock examination and include a coursework element, the current grade is based on the mock exam grade and the standard at which your child is currently performing at in terms of the coursework they have produced. This has been calculated pro rata in the same proportion as to the real qualification in June. These are the following subjects:

GCSE P.E. and OCR Engineering.

For subjects that are part exam based and include a coursework element but where your child did not sit a mock examination in September, the current grade has been calculated based on the standard at which the student is currently performing at in terms of the coursework produced and marked. These are the following subjects:

OCR IMedia and OCR P.E.

For subjects that are part exam based and include a controlled assessment and where your child has sat a mock examination in September and has yet to complete their controlled assessment, the current grade is based on the mock grade that your child achieved in September. These are the following subjects:

NCFE Business.



We have introduced a new additional grading system. Each GCSE grade, 9-1, is split into one of three sublevels. This indicates how close students are to the next grade boundary.

For example:

4 + means your child has achieved a score towards the higher end of a grade 4

4 means your child has achieved a score in the middle of a grade 4

4 - means your child has achieved a score in the lower end of a grade 4

We hope that this additional information will help you to provide guidance in supporting your child between now and the GCSEs.

We have also provided information as to the composition of each subject's mock exam and how closely it resembles the format of the real GCSE. Please be aware that mock exams may not be a fully accurate predictor of final GCSE results. This could be for any of the reasons below:

1. Subjects may not have delivered a full set of papers as courses have not yet been fully completed.
2. Some subjects are not 100% exam based and will have coursework scores added to them.
3. The preparation that students received prior to mock exams is designed so that students gain a sense of achievement. Revision lessons, boosters and home learning were targeted towards the content of the exams, whereas a real GCSE exam is both blind to teachers and students.

Predicted Grades

Teachers have used their professional judgement in determining these grades. They are based on the performance of your child in assessments and coursework produced so far at Key Stage 4 and have considered their attitude to learning. These grades provide an indication of the final grade that students may receive if they continue to work as they are currently.

Target Grades

These grades are calculated based on KS2 prior attainment scores from a statistical model developed by the Fischer Family Trust. The model looks at the GCSE results of previous cohorts of all students nationally who got the same scores at KS2 and uses that to generate a target grade. There has been no teacher input regarding these grades and they are not based on any assessments or work that has been completed in school. Please be aware that target grades are set at a highly aspirational level. We believe that by setting the bar high, students will rise to the challenge in this important year.

We hope that the information provided helps to keep you up to date with your child's progress.

Arrangements for Exams for Summer 2022 – Circulated to schools on 11.11.21

The government is clear that students entering GCSEs should expect to take exams in the summer. In recognition of the fact that students' education has been disrupted by the pandemic, they will be given extra help to prepare for their exams as follows:



National Teaching School
designated by

National College for
Teaching & Leadership



National Support School
designated by

National College for
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- students taking GCSEs in English literature, history, and geography will not need to cover the usual range of content in the exams.
- students taking GCSEs in all other subjects will be given advance information about the focus of the content of the exams to help them focus their revision.
- students taking GCSEs in mathematics will be given in their exams copies of formulae they would in other years have to memorise.
- students taking GCSE physics and combined science will be given in their exams a sheet covering all the equations they might need to apply in the exams.

This information will be published and available to schools by no later than 7th February 2022.

Ofqual has decided that grade boundaries for summer 2022 will be set so that more students than was the case before the pandemic receive higher grades, providing a safety net for students in this transitional year.

If exams have to be cancelled in summer 2022, students' grades will instead be determined by their teachers, using a Teacher Assessed Grade (TAG) approach similar to that used in summer 2021. TAGs are based on teachers' assessment of their students' work.

More information regarding exam arrangements can be found on the Department for Education website under the following: Contingency arrangements: GCSE, AS, A level, Project and AEA.

Should you have any queries regarding your child's grades, please contact the appropriate Achievement Leader via the email address below:

Key Stage 4 Mr. Parry Parry.D@hungerhillschool.com



Year 11 November 2021 Mock Overview

Business:

Students sat a full past paper. This contributes 25% to their final grade and is the only examined part of the course.

Combined Science:

Students sat Paper 1 for each science specialism from the GCSE Combined Science examination. These papers combined are the equivalent of 50% of a student's overall grade.

Biology, Chemistry, Physics:

Students sat Paper 1 for Biology, Chemistry and Physics from the GCSE Biology, Chemistry, and Physics examinations. Each paper is the equivalent of 50% of a student's overall grade for each science.

Computer Science:

Students sat Paper 1 and 2 of the computer science examination. Each paper is the equivalent of 50% of a student's overall grade for the qualification.

Engineering Design:

Students have sat unit R105 Design briefs, design specifications and user requirements for their mock exam - this represents 25% of the qualification.

English:

Students have sat one English Language Paper for their mock exam - this represents 50% of the qualification, covering over 80% of the Assessment Objectives - using unseen papers from the exam board. Further to this, they have sat part of English Literature Paper 2, which represents 50% of their English Literature grade, but tests all of the assessment objectives. Students have now studied all of the literature set texts at least once.

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Students sat a full Food and Nutrition examination. This paper is the equivalent of 50% of a student's overall grade. A further 25% reflects practical work completed to date and the remaining 25% is a written coursework assessment.

French:

Students sat the following: Paper 1 Listening, Paper 3 Reading and Paper 4 Writing. Each Paper is worth 33.3% of their overall grade. The questions were all from AQA past exam papers, but only Modules 1 to 6 were assessed as these have been taught so far.

Geography:

Students sat 2 papers. Paper 1 was 75 minutes and covered 73 of the 88 marks which included all topics on Paper 1 apart from rivers which has not been studied yet. Paper 2 was 60 minutes and covered 2 of the 3 questions focusing on urban challenges and economic world unit.



History:

Students sat two papers for the September mock examinations. Paper 1 was 75 minutes and covered the Medicine in Britain, 1250-present unit. Paper 2 was 80 minutes and covered the Weimar and Nazi Germany unit. The two papers combined represent 60% of the GCSE.

Maths:

Students sat a full series of papers. All papers are equally weighted and distributed with content. Paper 1 is non-calculator, whereas Papers 2 and 3 are calculator.

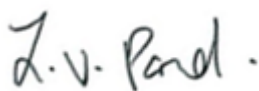
P.E.:

Students sat Paper 1 of the PE GCSE exam for the recent mock exams which contributes 30% of their final grade. The weighting of this has been doubled and combined with a current practical grade that makes up the remaining 40%

Psychology:

Students sat Paper 2 of the OCR Psychology examination. This paper is the equivalent of 50% of a student's overall grade.

Yours sincerely



Mrs L Pond
Headteacher



Mr P Storey
Deputy Headteacher



Miss H Tredgett
Assistant Headteacher